

his daily ~~work~~? And how he ~~had~~ carried his plan
duly marked by funeral trist, ~~years~~. Now in
the Duke's bedroom there was no narrow ~~bed~~ ^{was with military honors}
on which he always slept; when a lady friend
asked him why he used a bed of which no
warm room to warm, he said, ^{because} "When one
begins a turn in bed it is time to get up;
unpleasant experience! to know nothing of
~~the pleasure of~~ night."

He is to tennis, cont., a riding school
before his time, used to ~~the Duke~~ converted to
its present use, when ^{was accustomed} he would play with ~~among~~
this, his son's tutor, Mr. Wagner, afterwards
his of Brighton, to write. Mr. Wagner writes,
"his grace & were, perhaps, more equally matched
than men usually are, when the Duke often
bright almost-say invariably, used to ask
me, whether I was disposed to play at tennis
with him. On one occasion I remember
when made a chance, back-handed, violent
return of the ball, which was so rapid & twisting
that he could not get out of its way. It struck
him on the side. I jumped over the net, & expressed
my regret, secretly wishing that I, & not he, had
received the blow. He rubbed the place, referring
to a custom in India of putting in a variety
ofills. A few remained the game, he & I went
not leave off till he had played out well." A
very anecdote the picked up about the Duke
has been public property for many years, but
you recall the old stories with fresh interest
now on the spot, & wish this were more often
or rather you half wish, ingratiantly, that this
had been now of the conceivable grunts & grunts

~~addition~~ ~~glosses human nature in 'Kenilworth'~~
~~great Englishmen': but~~

Spent pray nearly with all others here, -
any thought which describes less than full honest
is a thought to be ashamed of with such an
ashamed, however. So full of his simplicity & self
neglect of character is every association
connected with the place. Yours; - his agent
purposely got him a person adjoining his
lands, & went - clandestinely to the Duke over
the great bargain he had made. "What do you
mean?" asked the Duke, "My, you fellow,
I have got - no person for - , & I know it to be
worth at least - . " "Are you quite sur
of that?" "Quite sure, your Grace, for I have
surveyed it carefully: " Very well, now pay no
gentlemen from me the balance between
what you have already given & the real value
of the estate."

This is only one instance of the quality which, to quote Mr. Wagner, made it "always a positive pleasure to transact business with him, for this reason, that he was never small, even in small matters." Before he left for the commencement of his tour into the U.S., there was apt to be much clashing between the farmers & the person; & that the press of the period of Shatto's field days should ~~not~~ be ~~so~~ disturbed on his account, he charged himself with the payment of the tithes.

Stratfield says - as typhonians a good
investment of the ~~public money~~ in force
~~mechanical~~ for the protection of ~~the coast~~.

L22P II C.M.C. 34

but to meet the want of it, labouring not to much
and should find it a better thing than he did.
Therefore he laid out ~~much~~ ^{much} ~~outlaying~~ of the rents
which his Hampshire property brought in, in
draining, chalking, & various improving the land,
in rebuilding & putting into complete repair
every farm & cottage in the estate; and this, "I do
not consider it or put the Duke of Wellington,
I am a rich man, because I have my pay as
commander-in-chief, & hold other offices under
government. My successor will not have my
sources of income, & therefore I consider it my
duty to lay by for him all that is not required
out of my rents, to put & keep the property in
perfect order."

So simple are his habits, that, notwithstanding so
little ~~great~~ ^{but for} & regular very frequent dinner parties
to Duke ^{and for} ~~and for~~ his neighbours, it is impossible
that his household expenditure should be heavy;
even when he entertained royal personages
as, as he did - George the Fourth, King
William & Queen Adelaide, & the Queen ^{before}
A Prince Consort were there one, he made no
new preparations, but judged what would be
agreeable to them by his own simple standard.
When the Queen visited him at Osborne, for
instance, the dining preparation he made was
a end for a carpenter to knock out a window
thus giving a new sea-view: this was the sort of
reception the Queen liked: the habits of the not
only the greatest, but the most & wisest of her
subjects; were always pretty thin-min.

L22p12cme 24
44

Stratfield Say is, as everyone knows, the property
by the nation presented, with 'Great-Duke' Say in recognition of
Waterloo. The pleasant park measures about a
mile by a mile & half, with trees as the most distinctive
of the estate: there is a mile long avenue of
Cornish elms, glorious trees, leading up to the
principal entrance of the house; other are old
oaks, very fine, & cedars of Lebanon, over a hundred
feet high, white trunks, of every feet of circumference:
the cedars are in the grounds to the north of
the house, where there are also, some very fine
larch trees. The finest in England, it is said,
stands on these chestnut trees raised from chestnuts
brought to the Duke from America because General
Washington had planted the trees that bore them:
trees raised elsewhere from the chestnuts borne
by these Stratfield Say trees would have a pedigree
worth speaking of.

The creamy-tinted house lies low in the valley
of the ladder with glories through the park. It is
a good Queen Anne house, with clots of tall
climbers shining out amongst the trees, with
the stables, kennel, gardens, &c, all
facing the entrance & making a sort of street - in
the French taste of the period at which it was
built.

Set in the pavement of the large entrance hall
are the two less-weathered glories brought here from
Wolkester for their better preservation; and over
them the Duke's banner, which used to hang
over his stall in St. George's Chapel, Windsor; here
you may make acquaintance with Copenhagen,
as he looked in life: there is a bronze of Medina
at

45

which of the French marshals he considered the best officers? he replied, " Massena, I always found him where I least desired that he should be." On the ground floor are a drawing room, dining room, library, & Mr. Astley's own room, all opening into one another & forming a sort of gallery, of all of which you can say no more than that they are completely furnished; the pictures are not particularly interesting, excepting a half-length of Mr. Astley ^{in his printing} by Lawrence which hangs in the library: of the books, a great many were presented by their authors, at home abroad. Also novels, there was no end to them; there was hardly a novel published but he received a copy, & this was done to reward of unknown books he said that the Duke gave orders that no book parcels should be sent in unless they were sent ~~by request~~ with his permission.

Considering that Shattock says is simply "gentleman's residence, by no means striking, with no others, it is amusing to read, - "It was on this amiable peculiarities, that Astley happened to be his own possessed great attractions in his eyes. Shattock says, a commodious house of the date of Queen Anne but in an architectural point pried. Certainly not an imposing one, he regarded as one of the best in England. His pictures his statuary, his furniture, his horses, & his carriages, were all regarded in the same light."

The estate ^{of Shattock} is held of the Crown by an ^{interested} lessee: in the 18th of June every year small ^{annual} ^{rental} Roy

L20214.C1634

flag is presented at Windsor, this is hung above a
bust of the Duke which stands in the guard-chamber.
The bust is by Chantrey, who took occasion upon
the death a piece of conversation which occurred to him, in
laying after, when setting his seal, to say "How mind
to shape my head, it's a square head. I know it
for Chantrey to do no less". Blenheim is held
by the Duke of Marlborough on a similar tenure,
the Blenheim flag being presented on the 2nd
of August, & hung above a bust of the Duke of
Marlborough.

Street does not in this case bear the Scotch sense.
The name should be written, as indeed it is
pronounced, Stratfield Say, being ~~Scotish~~^{Devon}
like the other two Stratfield, (Stratfield Turgis
& Stratfield懂得). From the great Roman
Street which ran through Winchester, to London
in the one hand & Bath in the other, the "Devil's
Highway" it is called, where it is still in
existence. The family of Say came in
with the Conqueror, they held the estate until
the reign of Richard II. when it passed by
marriage with Falbridge couple. In the reign
of Charles I., it was purchased by Sir William
Pitt, remained in the Pitt family during
the lives of the great and Chatham & his brother
son, who whom spent much of their leisure
here. In 1776, the Stratfield Say Pitt was created
Lord Rivers, it is from the Lord Rivers of
W. B. that the estate was purchased for the
Great Duke.

22 P 15 CMC 34

length appears to have been covered by the principal household buildings which formed a quadrangle round an inner court; three principal pavements remain. ~~lined~~ with pictures in mosaic - the largest being, probably, that of the great triclinium or banqueting hall. These pavements are no doubt the most interesting 'find,' but besides these are fragments of Doric columns, remains of the hypocaust, & a curious open fireplace whereon Sussex logs were sometime burnt. Splendid as this villa doubtless was, the abode of legate or propraetor, externally, it probably presented

He & his forefathers have observed that if wood be burnt on a field, & the ashes be mixed with the soil, the probable result is a good harvest. On this simple principle his system of farming is based. When spring comes round, & the leaves begin to appear on the trees, a band of peasants, armed with their halberts, proceed to some spot in the woods previously fixed upon. Here they begin to make a clearing. This is no easy matter, for tree-felling is hard and tedious work; but they have been brought up to the trade & work with gipsies. When they have felled all the trees, great & small, they return to their homes, & think no more about their clearing till the autumn, when they return in order to strip the fallen trees of their branches, to pick out what they want for building or fire-wood, & to pile up the remainder in heaps.

The logs for building or firewood are dropped away by horses as soon as the first fall of snow has made a good slippery road, but ~~the~~ ^{the rest} ~~are~~ ^{are piled up in heaps,} allowed to remain till the following spring, when ~~they~~ ^{these} are stirred up with long poles & ignited. The flames first appear at several points, & then, with the help of the dry grass & clags, rapidly form a gigantic bonfire such as is never seen in more densely peopled countries. If the fire has done its work properly, the whole of the space is covered with a layer of ashes; & when these have been slightly mixed with soil by means of a light plough, the seed is sown. On the field prepared in this original fashion